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pend ye on the paternal solicitude of your monarch, who finds all his happiness in yours.

(Signed)

" FRANCIS."

Vienna, April 8, 1809.

#### REFORM OF PARLIAMENT.

##### CROWN AND ANCHOR DINNER.

Yesterday the Meeting of the Friends of Reform was attended by above a thousand gentlemen, who dined together.

At five the doors of the Great Room were thrown open, and the room was full in a very few minutes. Several other rooms were also thrown open for the reception of the company who could not get admission into the Great Room.

Sir Francis Burdett, Lord Cochrane, Mr. Wardle, and several of the stewards, entered together, and were received with very loud applauses.

The first toast which was given after dinner was, "The King, and the principles which seated his family on the throne." This toast was premised by the Chairman (Sir Francis Burdett) with an observation, that the Sovereign was the person who was most deeply interested in the promotion of those measures, which they then assembled to promulgate. The toast was drank with loud applauses. The second toast was, "The People," and the third, "The progress of Public Opinion," which were also drank with loud applause.

Sir Francis Burdett then rose, and addressed the meeting in a speech, replete with eloquence, which our limits do not permit us to enter upon.

Major Cartwright afterwards moved the following resolutions, which were carried *nem. con.*

Resolved, 1. That it is the grand principle of the Constitution, that the people shall have a share in the government, by a just representation in Parliament.

2. That the long duration of Parliament greatly facilitates the corruption of the members, and removes that wholesome check or controul on their conduct, a frequent recurrence to the opinion of their constituents.

3. That in a petition presented to the House of Commons, on the 6th of May, 1793, it was offered to be proved at the bar, "that 134 individuals did, by their own authority, appoint, or procure the return of 507 members of that House," (exclusive of those from Scotland) "who are thus enabled to decide all questions in the name of the whole people of Great Britain."

4. That this meeting believes individual patronage in boroughs has increased

since 1793—that the representation of Scotland is extremely influenced and unfree—that there are great defects in that of Ireland—and that in the English boroughs called *rotten*, the returns are for the most part obtained for money: wherefore, upon the whole, it is the opinion of this meeting, that a great majority of the members of the Commons House, are so returned, that the Nation is not constitutionally represented; while yet it is taxed to support an expenditure of seventy millions sterling a year.

5. That in the Act (commonly called the Act of Settlement) which placed the House of Brunswick on the throne of these realms, it was asserted, and recognized as the constitutional principle, that no person who "has an office or place of profit under the king, or receives a pension from the crown, shall be capable of serving as a member of the House of Commons."

6. That it appears, by a report laid on the table of the House of Commons in June last, that 78 of its members are in the regular receipt, under the crown, of 178,994*l.* a year.

7. That in 1782 it was declared by Mr. Pitt in the House of Commons, that "seven or eight members of that House were sent there by the Nabob of Arcot, and that a foreign state in enmity to this country might procure a party to act for it under the mask and character of members of that House."

8. That such a state of representation is a national grievance.

9. That in every department of the state, into which inquiry has been made, scandalous corruptions and abuses have been detected.

10. That the exclusion of the public voice from all influence in, and the consequent corruption of the governments of the continental states, have been the causes of their subjugation.

11. That so long as the people shall not be fairly represented, corruption will increase; our debts and our taxes will accumulate: our resources will be dissipated; the native energy of the people will be depressed; and the country deprived of its best defence against foreign foes.

12. That to remedy the great and glaring evils of which we complain, it is not necessary to have recourse to theoretical speculations, or dangerous experiments in government, but to recur to the principles handed down to us by the wisdom and virtue of our forefathers.

13. That the remedy is to be found, and to be found only in a full and fair representation of all the people in the

Commons House of Parliament; a remedy equally necessary to the safety of the throne, and the happiness and independence of the country.

14. That we therefore recommend to every town, city, and county, to take the state of the representation into consideration, and urgently, but temperately, to apply to Parliament to adopt such measures as shall secure to the nation the reality and uses of representation.

Colonel Wardle, Lord Cochrane, Mr. Madocks, Mr. Waithman, Mr. Townsend, Mr. W. Smyth, and others, severally expressed their sentiments before the meeting was dissolved.

#### HAMPSHIRE RESOLUTIONS.

April 25th, 1809.

The High Sheriff of the county in the chair.

"Resolved, That the thanks of this meeting be given to Gwyllym Lloyd Wardle, esq. for having instituted the recent inquiry in the house of commons relative to the conduct of his Royal Highness the Duke of York; for having unconnected with, and unsupported by, any faction or party, prosecuted that laudable undertaking with talent and zeal, temper and perseverance, rarely to be met with; and especially for having had the resolution thus to discharge his duty, in defiance of the threats of the king's servants, and in spite of the prejudices endeavoured to be excited against his charges, through the false and hypocritical pretence that they proceeded from a Jacobin conspiracy; a pretence which, for many years past, has been the best ally of corruption, and through the means of which pretence, artful and wicked men have but too long stifled the voice of truth, have abused the ear and drained the purses of this unsuspecting and loyal nation:—That the thanks of this meeting be given to Sir Francis Burdett, bart. who seconded Mr. Wardle's motion for the inquiry, and also to lord viscount Folkestone, for the active and zealous assistance which his lordship afforded Mr. Wardle during the whole of the proceedings connected therewith; and to both of these gentlemen for their able and constitutional speeches in the discussion upon Mr. Wardle's motion of the 8th of March, and the subsequent discussions, arising out of the evidence taken during the said inquiry:—That the thanks of this meeting be given to Lords viscount Milton and Althorpe; to Lord Stanley; to the Hon. T. Brand and W. H. Lyttleton; to Sir S. Romilly, and Sir T. Turton; to major-general Ferguson; and to S. Whitbread, J. C. Curwen, T. W. Coke, H. Martin, J. Cal-

craft, and C. W. W. Wyne, esquires, who during the discussions aforementioned, stood forward the advocates of impartial justice; and also to the minority of 125, who divided in favour of Mr. Wardle's motion, amongst whom we, as Hampshire-men, observe with pleasure and with pride, the names of Sir. H. Mildmay, bart. and of Admiral Markham, and Newton Fellows, esq. while we, though not with very great surprise, observe, and trust that the fact will be remembered, that the name of neither of the members for this County does appear upon that honourable list:—That, in the course of the above-named Inquiry, acts of meanness, profligacy, and corruption, unparalleled, as we firmly believe in the history of any Government in the world, have been brought to light, and proved to our perfect conviction; and that while we, as Englishmen and loyal subjects, cannot help feeling sorrow and shame at seeing the Son, and indignation at seeing so many of the servants of our Sovereign involved in such scandalous transactions, we cannot, as men setting a proper value upon religious instruction and example, help entertaining the same feelings, and, if possible in an aggravated degree, at seeing deeply implicated in those transactions, no less than five ministers of the established church; nor can we refrain from an expression of our anxious hope, that the Clergy in general (following, in this respect, the example of the two Reverend Gentlemen who signed the Requisition for this Meeting) will lose no opportunity of inculcating an abhorrence of such practices, and thereby of showing, that the church, like her Founder, is no respecter of persons, and that her endowments are not received as the wages of dependence and sycophancy, but as the worthy hire of the labourer in the vineyard of Christian piety, and of private and public virtue:—That in adverting to the cause of the injurious and disgraceful acts, thus revealed and demonstrated, this meeting cannot help observing, that in the Act of Parliament, commonly called the Act of settlement, in virtue of which act and of which act only, his majesty's family was raised to the throne of this kingdom, it is declared, "that no person who has an office, or place of profit, under the king, or receives a pension from the crown, shall be capable of serving as a member of the house of commons;" but that, notwithstanding the wise precaution of this act, which is one of our great constitutional laws, and which, as its pream-